

System Configuration Team Meeting Notes

September 29, 2005

1. Greetings and Introductions.

The September 29 System Configuration Team meeting was chaired by Bill Hevlin. The following is a summary (not a verbatim transcript) of the topics discussed and decisions made at this meeting. Anyone with questions or comments about these notes should contact Kathy Ceballos at 503/230-5420.

2. FFDRWG/SRWG Update.

There was the special FFDRWG meeting on September 8 to discuss the surface passage strategy document. Does November 9-10 work for everyone for the next FFDRWG meeting in Walla Walla? Marvin Shutters asked. After a brief discussion, it was agreed to schedule the next FFDRWG meeting for November 3-4.

With respect to the SRWG, we had the first part of the preliminary proposal review on the 29th and 30th of August; later this afternoon and tomorrow, we will be doing the rest of the proposals, Shutters said. We'll likely reconvene in mid-October, he added.

3. Decision Framework for Lower Monumental RSW Development.

You will recall that last spring we went to the IT for a decision on spill studies at Lower Monumental which pertains to this topic, said Hevlin; and at that time, it was proposed that we develop criteria to guide decision of whether or not to install an RSW at Lower Monumental; in particular, whether the RSW should be constructed at Bay 7 or Bay 8. A group of SCT and IT representatives attempted to develop such a list of criteria; that piece was addressed by that group, but led to a bigger decision – whether we're going to be ready to issue a contract for the current RSW design in November.

At a previous meeting, Marvin agreed to lead a FFDRWG sub group's development of criteria for a decision framework, Hevlin said. Shutters briefly described the proposed criteria, noting that, the Corps would advertise the contract on November 25 if it is decided to move forward with construction of the current design in spillbay 8. Team members gave Marvin several comments and suggestions to improve the draft decision framework and he agreed to re-draft it. Hevlin noted that study results

from Lower Monumental this year will help to answer whether we believe that survival can be improved by an RSW at Lower Monumental and whether more fish can be guided to the spillway. The assumption is that we will improve survival at the dam and through the system by installing an RSW at Lower Monumental, he said. I just think we need a goal, said Ron Boyce. I think the goal should be that we're increasing project, then system, survival, said another participant;

I think Lower Monumental RSW makes sense, said Tom Lorz – however, before we get too far down the road, I think we need to think about Little Goose vs. McNary.

Ultimately, the group identified the following goals for the LoMo RSW program:

- Improve system survival
- Reduce delay
- Improve SAR
- Improve project survival
- Improve spillway efficiency

4. FY'06 CRFM Program.

The Corps distributed the most recent version of the FY'06 CRFM spreadsheet. The group devoted the remainder of today's meeting to this document. It was noted that the FY'06 CRFM appropriation continues to be \$85 million. We don't anticipate any major changes to that amount, said a Corps representative; applying savings and slippage, our best estimate is that we will have about \$75 million to work with in FY'06.

The group devoted the remainder of today's meeting to the FY'05 CRFM spreadsheet, offering a variety of questions and comments. Ultimately, it was agreed that the Corps will produce a modified version of the spreadsheet, reflecting the comments and concerns expressed at today's meeting, prior to the October SCT meeting.

5. Next SCT Meeting Date.

The next meeting of the System Configuration Team was set for October 21. Meeting summary prepared by Jeff Kuechle, BPA contractor.